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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02906.0359

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Patrick R. LANCASTER, III et al.) Group Art Unit: 3721
)
Serial No.: 10/767,863) Examiner: S. Tawfik
)
Filed: January 30, 2004)
) Confirmation No.: 2966
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
SECURING A LOAD TO A)
PALLET WITH A ROPED FILM)
WEB)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated February 23, 2006, the Examiner required an election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Species I, claims 119-128, characterized as relating to a rolling portion of the film web into a cable, and Species II, claims 131-134, characterized as relating to selectively engaging an edge portion of the film web with at least one roping element. Claims 129, 130, and 135-138 were characterized as generic. Claims 50 and 53-55 were not addressed in the species election requirement. Claims 50 and 53-55 depend from claim 119 and therefore are properly classified with claim 119.

Applicants elect to prosecute Species I, claims 50, 53-55, and 119-128, drawn to a rolling portion of the film web into a cable. Claims 129, 130, and 135-138 are generic.


Upon the allowance of generic claim 129, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner rejoin non-elected claims 131-134, which depend therefrom.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 24, 2006

By: 
Elizabeth M. Burke
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